

REMARKS

Applicants are submitting this Preliminary Amendment to Accompany a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in order to replace all claims in this application as last presented with new, more sharply focused claims 32 through 37. Antecedent basis for the new claims 32 through 35 may be found in the specification in Example 1 and in Figures 1 and 2. In Example 1 it is indicated that Applicants apply lactic acid at a rate of 0.05 moles, caproic acid at a rate of 0.03 moles and ammonia at a rate of 0.09 moles (Fig. 1) and apparently attain a level of attractiveness to mosquitoes that approaches that of human skin (Fig. 1). According to the data in Fig. 1 application of the individual amounts of lactic acid at 0.05 moles, caproic acid at 0.03 moles and ammonia at 0.09 moles does not perform nearly as well as the combination of all three ingredients 0.05 moles to 0.03 moles to 0.09 moles lactic acid/caproic acid/ammonia. This is evidence of a synergistic attractiveness that renders claims 32 through 35 patentably distinguishable over the BOSCH et al reference. Note that Applicants have limited the attracted insects in these claims to mosquitoes since the data regarding this particular composition relate specifically to attracting mosquitoes.

Antecedent basis for claims 36 and 37 may be found in Examples 7 and 8. Here the molar ratio of 1:2:0.3 lactic acid/caproic acid/ammonia is especially effective at attracting

mosquitoes and fruit flies as compared to other molar ratios of the same components. According to the data in Tables 3 and 4 in the present application the results for attracting both mosquitoes and fruit flies are very good for this particular combination of ingredients at the stated molar ratio, as opposed to the other tested molar ratios of the same ingredients.

Applicants earnestly solicit favorable consideration of the new claims now presented.

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